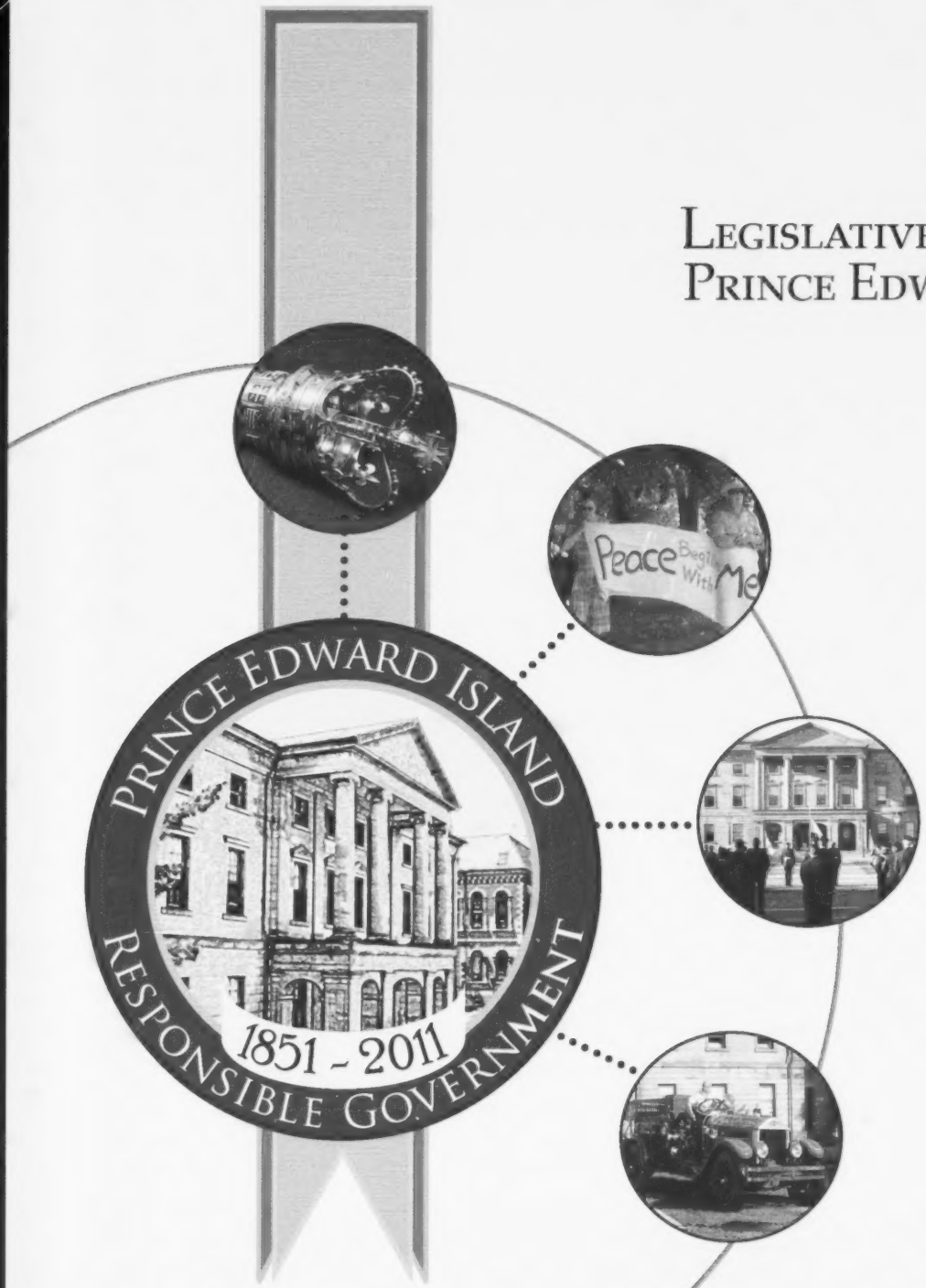
Legislative Assembly *of* Prince Edward Island



2011 Annual Report

Prince Edward Island
Legislative Assembly

Office of the Speaker
PO Box 2000, Charlottetown PE
Canada C1A 7N8

Tel/Tél.: 902 368 4310

www.assembly.pe.ca

Île-du-Prince-Édouard
Assemblée législative

Bureau du présidente
CP 2000, Charlottetown PE
Canada C1A 7N8

Fax/Téléc.: 902 368 4473

May 7, 2012

To the Members of the
Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island
Charlottetown

It is my pleasure to submit the Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island and the P.E.I. Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for the period January 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011.

I wish to acknowledge and thank all staff of the Legislative Assembly for the important work they do in supporting the exercise of parliamentary democracy on Prince Edward Island.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Bertram

Hon. Carolyn Bertram, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Prince Edward Island
Legislative Assembly

Office of the Clerk
PO Box 2000, Charlottetown PE
Canada C1A 7N8

Tel/Tél.: 902 368 5970

Île-du-Prince-Édouard
Assemblée législative

Bureau du présidente
CP 2000, Charlottetown PE
Canada C1A 7N8

www.assembly.pe.ca

Fax/Téléc.: 902 368 5175

May 4, 2012

Hon. Carolyn Bertram, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Province House, Charlottetown

Dear Madam Speaker,

I have the pleasure of presenting the 2011 Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island, which includes the 2011 report of the Prince Edward Island Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. This report highlights the various activities of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the Office of the Clerk for the period January 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles H. MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and
Secretary, P.E.I. Branch of the
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

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1 ADMINISTRATION

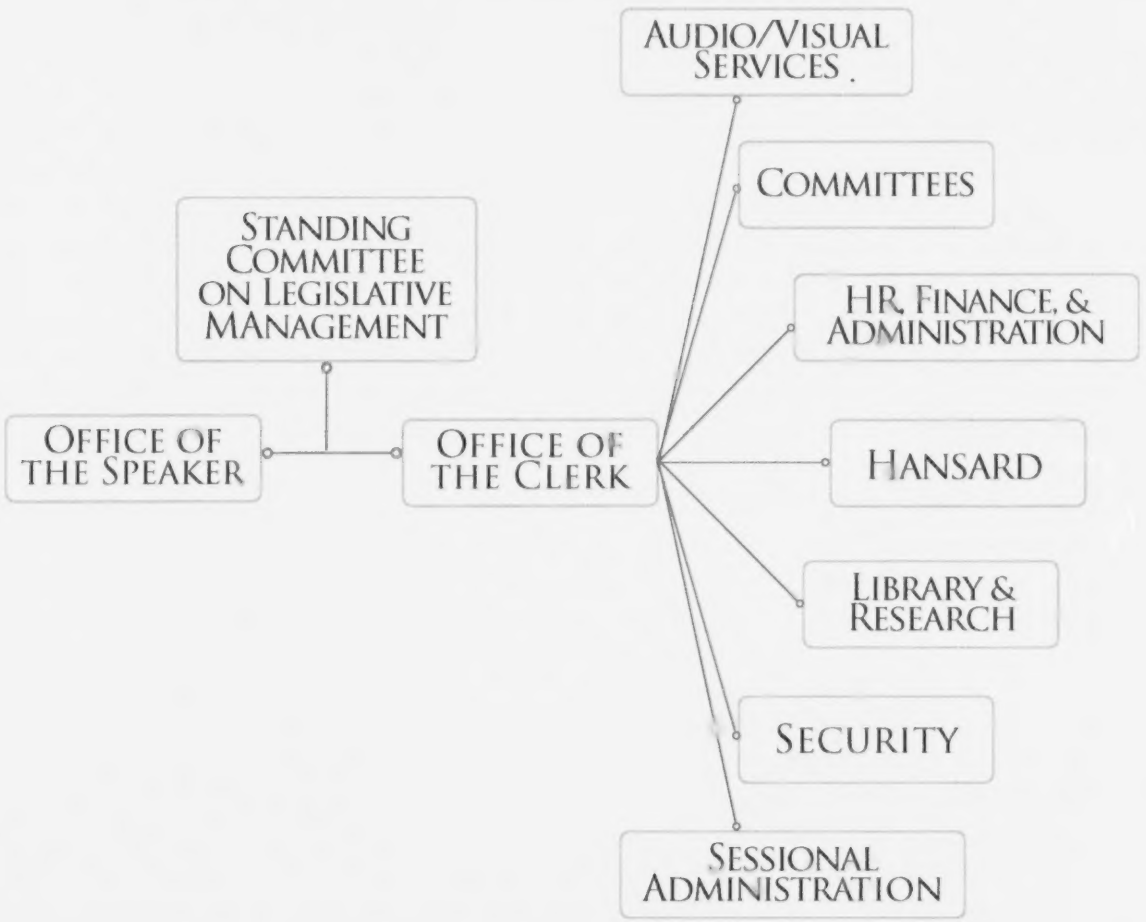
Office of the Legislative Assembly

The Office of the Legislative Assembly (OLA) provides the administrative and procedural support Members need to carry out their duties as elected officials. The OLA functions as an impartial authority responsible for the administration of the Legislative Assembly.

The Standing Committee on Legislative Management, chaired by the Speaker and composed of Members of the House, governs the OLA and ensures an "arm's length" relationship is maintained between the operation of the House and the operation of the Executive.

The OLA has access to a wide range of staff and resources that help support the activities of the House and provide services to the public: administrators, lawyers, security, researchers, computer technicians, and maintenance personnel.

Below is an unofficial organizational chart of the Office of the Legislative Assembly.



Standing Committee on Legislative Management

Committee Mandate

The Standing Committee on Legislative Management is responsible for the policies which govern the administration of the Legislative Assembly, covering everything from providing security and managing the facilities, to appointing staff, and reviewing the Assembly's estimates and expenditures. The Committee may also undertake additional duties if it is deemed important to the efficient management of the Legislative Assembly.

Committee Membership

- Speaker (Chair)
- Deputy Speaker
- Government House Leader
- Government Caucus Chair
- Leader of the Official Opposition
- Opposition Caucus Chair
- Leader of a Third Party

Motion 56: the Future of Province House

Province House is unique among Canadian legislatures in that it is maintained jointly by a federal government entity, Parks Canada, and a provincial entity, the Government of Prince Edward Island. This relationship is based on a 1974 federal-provincial lease agreement that designates structural and interpretive responsibilities to the federal government, while the province retains ownership of the building. The federal interest in the building is related to its role as the site of the 1864 Charlottetown Conference, which led to Confederation.

In a unanimous motion during its spring 2010 sitting, the Legislative Assembly called on the Standing Committee on Legislative Management to review the 1974 federal-provincial agreement on Province House. The committee was asked to put forward recommendations on how to ensure Province House is structurally maintained into the future and interpreted in a dynamic manner that encompasses its full colonial, provincial and national history. The Legislative Management Committee held public meetings, hearing a number of common themes, including the importance of interpreting the full scope of Province House's history, the urgent need of major repairs, the price and expertise said repairs will require, and the need to re-establish the building as a source of pride for all Islanders.

In its report, adopted by the Legislative Assembly in December 2010, the committee made a total of 14 recommendations. These included:

- that Parks Canada should maintain a presence at Province House, and should live up to the structural maintenance responsibilities assigned to it in the 1974 Province House Agreement;

- that Province House should be fully restored before the 150th anniversary of Charlottetown Conference in 2014, and that a long-term legacy fund should be established to ensure the building is maintained into the future;

- that the Provincial Government should become more actively involved in ensuring that Province House is well cared for and that the Legislative Assembly should take on a greater role in the management of Province House;

- that the 1974 Province House Memorandum of Agreement should be revised and, in doing so, the Legislative Assembly should be added as a signatory, a Province House Committee should be formed, space should be reallocated for the use of the Legislative Assembly and Parks Canada, and a life-cycle plan for the Province house structure should be developed;

- that interpretation of Province House should be expanded and enhanced in order to include the full scope of legislative and democratic history on PEI, and should be jointly delivered by Parks Canada and the Legislative Assembly;

- that a Visitor Services and Public Engagement division within the Office of the Legislative Assembly should be created, and that attempts to re-engage Islanders with their legislature should be made whenever possible; and

- that the Office of the Legislative Assembly should further investigate the possibility of obtaining a UNESCO World Heritage Site designation.

Since December 2010, the provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and Parks Canada continue to work towards implementation of some or all of the committee's recommendations.

Office of the Clerk

Role

As the chief permanent officer of the Legislative Assembly, the Clerk aids the Speaker in providing administrative support to members, and advises the Speaker and members on parliamentary procedure, helping to ensure the proper execution of House rules and practices.

Any documents or reports presented by members during the sitting are given to the Clerk for safekeeping, and are said to have been 'tabled.' The Clerk maintains the official record of the business of the House, and is custodian of the House's parliamentary papers. Both the Clerk and the Clerk Assistant are present at each sitting of the House, seated at a table in front of the Speaker.

Conference Activity

Charles MacKay, Clerk; Marian Johnston, Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees; and Melissa Keefe, Committee Clerk, attended the 2011 Professional Development Seminar organized by the Association of Clerks-at-the-Table in Canada in August. Topics discussed at this year's annual conference included ethics for table officers; the law and the limits of privilege; the power to send for persons; and the concept of convention in a parliamentary context. At the general meeting, Marian Johnston was elected President of the Association for the 2011-2012 year.

Rotary Youth Parliament

The Rotary Youth Parliament took place at Province House on February 11-12, 2011. Now in its twenty-third year, the long-running project is a partnership between the Speaker's and Clerk's offices, the Department of Education, District School Boards, volunteer teacher advisors and Rotary Clubs across Prince Edward Island.

Visit to Province House by Their Royal Highnesses, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge

Prince Edward Island has long welcomed holiday-makers and honeymooners to its red shores, but perhaps none have been so warmly received as Their Royal Highnesses, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, who visited the province in early July. Following months of planning and preparations, the highly-anticipated official welcome to Prince Edward Island took place at Province House on the morning of July 4, 2011. An estimated 20,000 people lined historic Great George Street, with some royal watchers arriving before dawn to assure themselves a prime vantage point. While at Province House, the royal couple signed the guest book and viewed the restored Legislative Library and toured the historic Legislative Chamber.

L TO R: CATHERINE, DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE; PRINCE WILLIAM, DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE; HON. KATHLEEN CASEY, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE; MAURICE FITZPATRICK, ASSIST. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS; J.A. (AL) MCDONALD, SERGEANT-AT-ARMS; MARIAN JOHNSTON, CLERK ASSISTANT AND CLERK OF COMMITTEES

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE WILLIAM,
THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE

Installation of the Honourable H. Frank Lewis, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island

On August 15, 2011, the Honourable H. Frank Lewis was installed as Prince Edward Island's forty-first Lieutenant Governor at a ceremony held at Province House. Mr. David Jenkins, chief justice of the province, administered the Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Office. Mr. Lewis was also presented with the Prince Edward Island medal of merit, joining his spouse, Dorothy, as a member of the Order of Prince Edward Island.

The post of Lieutenant Governor was established in 1769 as part of the initial administration of the Island colony. The British North America Act of 1867 created Canada and a national (or federal) government, and local (or provincial) governments in the former British North American colonies. The Lieutenant Governor, who had formerly reported to the Colonial Office in London, became, initially, an officer of the Government of Canada. In Prince Edward Island, this change took place in 1873 when the colony exchanged its earlier status for that of a province of the Dominion of Canada.

The Lieutenant Governor is the representative of the Crown in the Province, and exercises Her Majesty's powers and authorities with respect to Prince Edward Island.

One of the most important responsibilities is to ensure that the Province always has a Premier. If this office becomes vacant because of death or resignation, it is the Lieutenant Governor's duty to see that the post is filled. The Sovereign's representative has the same responsibility if the government resigns following a defeat in the Legislative Assembly or in an election.

The Lieutenant Governor is an important element in both the Legislative and Executive Government of the Province, and summons, prorogues, and dissolves the Legislative Assembly, as well as reads the Speech from the Throne at the opening of a session.

With the advice of the Premier, the Lieutenant Governor appoints and swears-in members of the Executive Council and is guided by their advice as long as they retain the confidence of the Legislative Assembly. Moreover, the Lieutenant Governor gives Royal Assent in Her Majesty's name to all bills passed by the Legislative Assembly, and signs Orders-in-Council, Proclamations, Crown Grants and many other official documents, all before they have the force of law.

L TO R: RORY BECK, PREMIER ROBERT GHIZ,
HIS HONOUR H. FRANK LEWIS, AND
CHIEF JUSTICE DAVID JENKINS

The Order of Prince Edward Island

The 2011 recipients of the Order of Prince Edward Island were announced in June 2011 by the Chancellor of the Order, Her Honour the Honourable Barbara A. Hagerman, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island; and Mr. Maitland MacIsaac, Chair of the Order of Prince Edward Island Advisory Council. The three Islanders selected to receive the honour were Mr. William C. Callbeck, Ms. Eleanor Davies, and Dr. David Wong. These three individuals were selected from a total of 55 Islanders nominated to receive the award in 2011.

The honour was first conferred in 1996 with six individuals invested at that time; since then there have been three Islanders Invested each year. The honour is awarded as a means of recognizing those Islanders who have shown individual excellence or outstanding leadership in their community and in their chosen occupation or profession. It is the highest honour that can be accorded to a citizen of the Province. It is awarded annually following a public nomination process with not more than three recipients being selected by an independent nine-person Advisory Council each year. Insignia of the Order were presented by the Lieutenant Governor at a special investiture ceremony in October at Government House, Charlottetown. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Charles MacKay, is Secretary to the Advisory Council.

Co-op Education Program with the University of Prince Edward Island

The Legislative Assembly has an established working relationship with the University of Prince Edward Island through a Co-op Educational Program for third and fourth year students. University students, majoring in History and/or Political Science, are assigned to the Legislative Assembly during the fall and winter semesters, and exposed to the operations of the Office of the Legislative Assembly, Office of the Speaker, Government and Opposition Members' Office, Hansard Office, Legislative Library and Committees Branch. The Co-op Program is designed to promote an understanding of the workings of the Legislative Assembly at the University, to support students by providing work in their chosen field of study and to increase the Assembly's profile at UPEI. This initiative is part of an ongoing effort to provide information to the public about our provincial parliament and about the specific work that is conducted at the House. Since its inception in 2008, a total of 5 students have participated in the well-received program.

CLERK OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Charlie MacKay

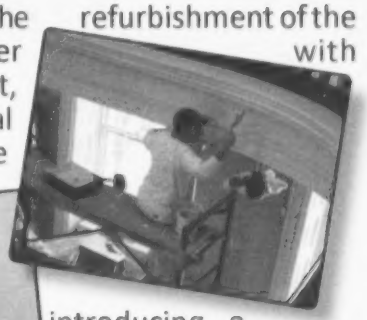
Celebration of the 160th Year of Responsible Government

In 2011, the Legislative Assembly celebrated the 160th anniversary of the achievement of responsible government. It was at the opening of the spring session in 1851 that, after a lengthy struggle, Sir Alexander Bannerman, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, announced that responsible government would be granted to the colony. To commemorate this significant milestone, the Legislative Assembly organized a number of events to take place throughout 2011 to provide those interested with an opportunity to learn more about the historical and present-day importance of this event.

Speaker Kathleen Casey hosted a well-attended Open House for members of the provincial public service on January 28, 2011. The event included special "insiders'" tours of Province House, door prizes and refreshments, and was intended to be a kickoff to the year-long celebration of the anniversary.

In February, Senator Mike Duffy delivered the first of the "160 Lectures" in Province House, a series which would grow in popularity as the year unfolded. He spoke about responsible government in the age of Facebook.

Along with the celebratory events, projects of a more enduring nature were undertaken during 2011 to help mark the 160th anniversary. One of these was the refurbishment of the Legislative Chamber with a fresh coat of paint, keeping a traditional green colour for the walls and



introducing a lighter colour for the doors, baseboards and mouldings. The wood rails which delineate the floor of the Chamber and surround the public gallery were restored using traditional faux graining techniques, as were the black marble bases of the columns. One of the most striking changes was an addition to the canopy over the Speaker's chair. The new top was installed to disguise sound reinforcing equipment which had been visible from the public gallery.

The public was invited to hear well-known Canadian historian Professor Ian Ross Robertson speaking on "The Road to Responsible Government" at Province House in March. Professor Robertson's lecture was delivered in the Chamber, fittingly just steps away from where Premier George Coles announced, in

1851, that he had formed a government which had the confidence of the representatives of the people and of the country in general.

In May, the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island hosted the Island launch of Professor Rusty Bittermann's award winning book *Sailor's Hope: The Life and Times of William Cooper, Agrarian*

Radical in an Age of Revolutions at Province House. Professor Bittermann spoke to a capacity crowd on the legacy of William Cooper, an important figure in Prince Edward Island's pre-Confederation struggle for land reform.

The art of Mary Margaret Land Curtis of Curtland Studio, Charlottetown, was exhibited in the Legislative Chamber for the month of July. Her watercolours and prose allowed visitors and Islanders alike to see and appreciate the essential character of Canada and of Canadians.

For more than forty years, high school students from across Prince Edward Island have participated in the legislative page program at the province's Legislative Assembly. A reunion of former legislative pages was held at Province House on August 18, 2011, as part of the ongoing celebrations to mark the 160th anniversary of the achievement of Responsible Government in Prince Edward Island.

Prince Edward Island's first legislative pages were appointed in 1964 and included William Richard, Michael Brown, Anthony Morley and Kent Martin. Eight years later, in 1972, Janice Clarkson and Brenda MacQuarrie, then students at Montague Regional High School, became the first two females appointed. Since its inception, a total of 277 high school students have participated in the program, selected by their respective schools on the basis of high academic standards and extra-curricular achievements.

Over the years, the uniforms have changed, but the duties of the legislative pages are largely the same as when the program began. Pages are instrumental in supporting the Legislative Assembly's proceedings by distributing documents, delivering messages and notes, making photocopies, and providing other assistance as needed to the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Table Officers. For nearly five decades, they have witnessed firsthand the unfolding of the province's history, listening to the proceedings of question period, debates on proposed legislation and the scrutiny of the government's budgetary plans.

The reunion on August 18 was an opportunity to thank all former pages for their contributions to the legislative process and provided a chance for them to reconnect with one another and to reminisce about their experiences.

In September, Dr. Godfrey Baldacchino of the Institute of Island Studies at the University of Prince Edward Island spoke on "Governing 'The Island': An International Perspective." Dr. Baldacchino's lecture focused on how island territories within largely continental, federal countries interact with their respective federal governments.

Other Projects

A number of smaller-scale projects were also completed during the year: special commemorative pins were distributed; a new bowler hat for the Committee of the Whole was sourced and purchased; stationery with a 160 logo was designed and produced in-house for the use of the Speaker's Office and the Office of the Clerk.

CLERK OF COMMITTEES
Marian Johnston

2 Sessional Activity

Assembly Statistics

	Spring 2011 - 3/63	Fall 2011 - 4/63	Totals
Number of sitting days	22	6	**28**
Government bills brought	12	3	**15**
Government bills passed	6	3	**9**
Private member's bills brought	0	0	**0**
Private member's bills passed	0	0	**0**
Private bills brought	0	0	**0**
Private bills passed	0	0	**0**
Oral question period			
Average number of questions a day	26	30	**702**
Average length of questions	34 seconds	28 seconds	
Average length of answers	1 min., 2 sec.	46 seconds	
Longest question asked	1 min., 27 sec.	1 min., 22 sec.	
Longest answer given	3 min., 2 sec.	2 min., 37 sec.	
Shortest question asked	3 seconds	5 seconds	
Shortest answer given	1 second	1 second	
Ministerial statements			
Average number of statements a day	5.2	4.8	**135**
Average length of statements	2 min., 20 sec.	2 min., 17 sec.	
Longest statement	6 min., 22sec.	3 min., 12 sec.	
Shortest statement	36 seconds	1 min., 22 sec.	
Motions			
Introduced by Government	12	3	**15**
Introduced by Opposition	10	9	**19**
Introduced jointly	0	0	**0**
Passed	4	0	**4**
Number of written questions submitted	11	0	**11**
Number of written answers submitted	0	0	**0**

BUDGET OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

	EXPENSES $	ESTIMATES $
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
Administration	141,017	122,000
Equipment	31,578	28,500
Materials, Supplies & Services	88,906	99,400
Professional & Contract Services	51,274	102,000
Salaries	1,507,612	1,556,900
Travel & Training	34,374	36,100
Grants		
Opposition Members Office	108,300	103,300
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association	20,438	16,000
Government Members Office	120,400	115,400
	2,103,899	**2,179,600**
Commonwealth Parliamentary Services		
Administration	49,720	59,700
	49,720	59,700
Total Legislative Services	**2,153,619**	**2,239,300**
MEMBERS		
Members		
Salaries	2,027,353	2,136,100
Travel & Training	95,595	126,000
Total Members	**2,122,948**	**2,262,100**
OFFICE OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMISSIONER		
Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner		
Administration	235	--
Professional & Contract Services	99	--
Salaries	43,167	40,900
Travel & Training	440	3,200
Total Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner	**43,941**	**44,100**

	EXPENSES $	ESTIMATES $
OFFICE OF THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER		
Office of the Conflict of the Information and Privacy Commissioner		
Administration	4,178	4,900
Materials, Supplies & Services	484	1,600
Professional & Contract Services	47,821	1,000
Salaries	99,683	96,700
Travel & Training	5,148	5,000
Total Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner	**157,314**	**109,200**
ELECTIONS P.E.I.		
Elections		
Administration	2,194	5,000
Equipment	409	1,300
Materials, Supplies & Services	4,548	2,500
Professional & Contract Services	2,173	14,000
Salaries	233,463	238,800
Travel & Training	3,718	4,000
Total Elections P.E.I.	**246,505**	**265,600**
TOTAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	**4,724,327**	**4,920,300**

3 House Offices & Associations

Audio/Visual Services

Multimedia Services had a busy year with events at Province House and the Hon. George Coles Building.

We were responsible for producing the TV broadcast and webcast of the spring and fall sittings of the Legislature.

The TV broadcast was shown on EastLink and available to all cable viewers on PEI. The legislative broadcast was also seen in house by media and legislature staff. Each session of the respective sittings was also archived on DVD.

The live video stream was shown both externally and internally on the web. Multimedia provided audio and video support to ITSS. We archived all streaming sessions of the legislature on the Legislative Assembly web site.

Our section provided technical support for all committee meetings held at the Coles Building. The technicians were in charge of operating the microphones, providing the media with press feeds and assisting presenters with audio/video and power point presentations to the committees.

A new audio system called Sliq was introduced to the legislature and to committee meetings. The system was used by Multimedia to record the standing committees and the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly during the spring and fall sittings.

Multimedia technicians are also responsible for the repair and maintenance of all audio and visual equipment at Province House and the Hon. George Coles Building.

Multimedia Services had another productive year working with management and staff at the provincial legislature and the Hon. George Coles Building. Multimedia will continue to stay current with developing technology and equipment and strive to maintain a strong working relationship with everyone at the Legislative Assembly.

Audio/Visual Services
Peter MacPhee

COMMITTEES

Summary

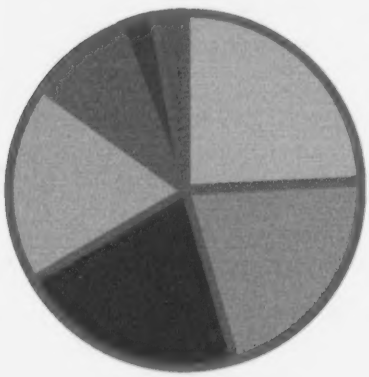
In total, 28 meetings were held during 2011 to undertake the work mandated to the various committees. Six reports were presented to the Legislative Assembly for its consideration.

The following charts present information regarding the subject matter and dates of the committees' reports to the Legislative Assembly, committee activity, special projects of the Clerk of Committees, and committee membership during the time period of this report.

Committee Reports

Committee (Author)	*Title(s)*	*Date(s)*
Agriculture, Environment, Energy & Forestry	*Committee Activities*	April 20, 2011
Committee on Committees	*Composition of the Standing Committees*	November 3, 2011
Education & Innovation	*Committee Activities*	April 27, 2011
Fisheries, Transportation & Rural Development	*Committee Activities*	May 5, 2011
Health, Social Development & Seniors	*Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission*	April 19, 2011
Public Accounts	*Report of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly*	May 11, 2011
	TOTAL NO. OF REPORTS	6

Committee Activity



Committee Name — *No. of mtgs.*

- Agriculture, Environment, Energy & Forestry 8
- Health, Social Development & Seniors 7
- Education & Innovation 7
- Public Accounts 6
- Fisheries, Transportation & Rural Development 3
- Community & Intergovernmental Affairs 1
- Privileges, Rules & Private Bills 1

KEY TO COMMITTEES

AEEF - *Agriculture, Environment, Energy and Forestry*
CC - *Committee on Committees*
CIA - *Community and Intergovernmental Affairs*
EI - *Education and Innovation*
FTRD - *Fisheries, Transportation and Rural Development*
HSDS - *Health, Social Development and Seniors*
PRPB - *Privileges, Rules and Private Bills*
PA - *Public Accounts*

Committee Membership - Fourth Session of the Sixty-third General Assembly

Committee name	*AEEF*	*CC*	*CIA*	*EI*	*FTRD*	*HSDS*	*PRPB*	*PA*
Member name								
Jim Bagnall	●		●	●	●	●	●	*Chair*
Hon. Carolyn Bertram								
Paula Biggar			●			*Chair*	*Chair*	●
Hon. Richard Brown							●	
Hon. Allan Campbell								
Hon. Kathleen Casey								
Hon. Olive Crane			●			●	●	●
Hon. Doug Currie								
Michael Currie*	●			●	●			
Valerie Docherty	●					●		
Bush Dumville				●	*Chair*	●		
Cynthia Dunsford	●		●	*Chair*		●		
Sonny Gallant			●			●		●
Hon. Robert Ghiz								
Gerard Greenan			●	●				●
Robert Henderson	●		*Chair*			●		
Hon. Neil LeClair								
Hon. Ron MacKinley							●	
Charles McGeoghegan	●			●	●			●
Alan McIsaac	*Chair*			●	●			
Robert Mitchell					●			
Pat Murphy			●	●	●			
Hon. Wes Sheridan								
Hon. Janice Sherry							●	
Hon. Robert Vessey							●	
Buck Watts	●				●			●
Hon. George Webster							●	

**until March 28, 2011*

KEY TO COMMITTEES

AEEF - *Agriculture, Environment, Energy and Forestry*
CC - *Committee on Committees*
CIA - *Community and Intergovernmental Affairs*
EI - *Education and Innovation*
FTRD - *Fisheries, Transportation and Rural Development*
HSDS - *Health, Social Development and Seniors*
PRPB - *Privileges, Rules and Private Bills*
PA - *Public Accounts*

Committee Membership - First Session of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly

Committee name	*AEEF*	*CC*	*CIA*	*EI*	*FTRD*	*HSDS*	*PRPB*	*PA*
Member name								
James Aylward			●	●		●		
Hon. Carolyn Bertram								
Paula Biggar	*Chair*	●	●		●			●
Richard Brown			●			●		
Kathleen Casey	●			●			*Chair*	
Hon. Olive Crane		●	●					●
Hon. Doug Currie								
Hon. Valerie Docherty								
Bush Dumville	●		*Chair*	●		*Chair*		
Sonny Gallant		*Chair*	●		*Chair*	●		●
Hon. Robert Ghiz								
Gerard Greenan			●	*Chair*		●		●
Hon. Robert Henderson								
Colin LaVie	●				●		●	
Hon. Ron MacKinley							●	
Charles McGeoghegan				●	●			●
Hon. Alan McIsaac							●	
Robert Mitchell				●		●		
Pat Murphy	●		●	●	●			
Steven Myers		●			●		●	*Chair*
Hal Perry	●			●		●		
Hon. Allen Roach								
Hon. Wes Sheridan		●						
Hon. Janice Sherry							●	
Hon. Robert Vessey							●	
Buck Watts	●				●			●
Hon. George Webster							●	

HANSARD

In the first half of 2011 Hansard continued with its usual duties: creating volumes 6 and 7 of Index to Committees in January and June, respectively; creating indices for the daily debates for fall 2010, spring 2011, and fall 2011; digitizing reel-to-reel tapes from 1968 to 1995, and their transcription (now up to March 1973 for the digitization, and in May 1969 for the transcription); and transcribing and publishing the spring sitting of the 4th session of the 63rd General Assembly, and the 1st sitting of the 64th General Assembly.

Two new long-term projects began in 2011. One is updating the biographical entries to *Minding the House*. What Hansard and the Association of Former Members of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island call *Minding the House: 1993-2011, Volume II* will contain both updated and completely new biographies of MLAs whose careers fall within that span of years. Hansard is writing and will edit the contents of the book which we aim to have come out in 2014 as part of the commemorations in that anniversary year. Early work on this started in mid-May and continued until late June when it stopped for the year.

The second project, also a long-term one, is to digitize the journals of the Legislative Assembly and its predecessors, the House of Assembly and Legislative Council, which taken together reach back to the late 18th century. The committee partners in this are:

Government Services Library (Nichola Cleaveland), Hansard (Jeff Bursey), Legislative Library (Laura Morrell), PARO (Jill MacMicken-Wilson), Queen's Printer (Mike Fagan), and Robertson Library of the University of Prince Edward Island (Mark Leggott, Simon Lloyd and Donald Moses).

Two Hansard staff, Cheryl Connell and Marcel Vander Wier, were trained on the highly specialized equipment located at Robertson Library: the robotic scanner that can scan 1,500 pages per minute, and other scanners that are used as required. The Journals record what has happened in the Chambers, and the aim is to place this incredibly rich resource on the web where it will be accessible to everyone. Planning for this project began in the fall of 2010, and a series of committee meetings helped define the targets and parameters, as well as the funding, for the project. Mark Leggott met with various participants in the fall of 2010 in preliminary meetings.

With breaks for the sitting of the House and summer months off, Hansard staff scanned documents from mid-February to the end of June; from early September to late October; and from mid-November to late December. By the end of 2011 enough journals had been scanned and processed to put a block on line for private viewing by committee members and select others. Further refinements are to occur in 2012 before the material is made public.

After the 4th session prorogued, Hansard put together the debates for binding, and the bound Hansard for 2010-2011 was delivered to the Office of the Speaker in October. The Clerk's Journal for the 4th Session of the 63rd General Assembly (fall 2010-spring 2011) was compiled, indexed and formatted through the late summer and early fall. It came out in November 2011. Also, in early June the Hansard Manager wrote the Order of PEI biographies.

In late May, Hansard (and other Legislative Assembly staff) made the first movements to switch from WordPerfect to Word, in preparation for changing from the CourtSmart digital audio recording system to the Sliq digital audio recording system. One-day training in Word was provided by an IT person and by a Hansard employee well versed in it. The training for Sliq occurred in early June, with three of their representatives present for a full week to liaise with and train Hansard staff, Legislative Assembly administrative personnel, Translation Services, ITSS and Multi-Media. Things went fairly smoothly. Improvements and fine-tuning of the system occurred both before the House resumed and in early November when the House was sitting. While the workflow slowed down the usual deadlines were met. Further refinements were made after the sitting ended.

Just previous to the switch from WordPerfect to Word, the Hansard Manager attended, for the first time, an indexing and editing conference in Vancouver, BC, after which he visited the Hansard operations in Victoria. The conference provided an opportunity to discuss and investigate the benefits of indexing software, as well as many indexing and editing issues; the Hansard visit included a demonstration of the Cindex indexing software.

Continuing with indexing, in January 2011, volume 6 of Index of Committees appeared. In June, volume 7 appeared. The following committees were covered in these indices:

- Agriculture, Environment, Energy and Forestry
- Community and Intergovernmental Affairs
- Education and Innovation
- Fisheries, Transportation and Rural Development
- Health, Social Development and Seniors
- Legislative Management
- Privileges, Rules and Private Bills
- Public Accounts

Indices to the daily debates also came out in 2011. The index to fall 2010 came out in February 2011, and the index for the entire 4th session came out in early July. Due to the short sitting of the 1st session in the fall of 2011, Hansard could produce that index in December 2011.

Throughout 2011 Hansard moved forward with digitizing reel-to-reel tapes and transcribing their contents. This invaluable historical project began in February 2009, starting with the 3rd Session of the 51st General Assembly (22 February-25 April 1968); the latter days of December 2009 saw a continuation of the digitizing for the period of 11 March 1969 to 6 June 1969; in 2010 Hansard finished 1970 (5th session; and 1st session of 52nd General Assembly) and began 1971 (2nd Session of 52nd General Assembly); and moved on through the 3rd and 4th Sessions in 2010 and 2011, finishing on 16 March 1973. Included on the tapes are the debates of a Model Parliament for 1973, and a Centennial Sitting on 7 July. Hansard has converted approximately 780 hours of perishable taped debates into digital files, covering the period 22 February 1968 to 5 May 1973. By the end of 2011, 22 February 1968 to 2 May 1969 had been transcribed.

Hansard attended the annual Hansard

Association of Canada conference in Toronto from 21-26 August, where technological and administrative matters were discussed among colleagues, as well as information shared from the various jurisdictions represented, which included most of Canada, Britain, Scotland, and Wales.

On 12 November 2010 the Legislature's 4th Session started, and it ended 9 December; the spring sitting started on 5 April 2011 and ended 13 May 2011.The 1st session of the 64th General Assembly started 1 November and ended 9 November.

Since 1996 Hansard has issued a bound edition of the daily debates with index. Volumes are distributed within the Legislative offices, to government and opposition offices, and to national libraries. Here is a list of these volumes:

1996: 4th Session of the 59th General Assembly; 2 volumes (1,238 pages)

1997-1998: 1st Session of the 60th General Assembly; 13 volumes (6,150 pages)

1998-1999: 2nd Session of the 60th General Assembly; 3 volumes (3,623 pages)

1999-2000: 3rd Session of the 60th General Assembly; 2 volumes (1,001 pages)

2000: 1st Session of the 61st General Assembly; 2 volumes (1,054 pages)

2000-2001: 2nd Session of the 61st General Assembly; 2 volumes (1,100 pages)

2001-2002: 3rd Session of the 61st General Assembly; 2 volumes (2,417 pages)

2002-2003: 4th Session of the 61st General Assembly; 3 volumes (2,788 pages)

2003-2004: 1st Session of the 62nd General Assembly; 3 volumes (3,300 pages)

2004-2005: 2nd Session of the 62nd General Assembly; 4 volumes (3,762 pages)

2005-2006: 3rd Session of the 62nd General Assembly; 3 volumes (3,466 pages)

2006-2007: 4th Session of the 62nd General Assembly; 2 volumes (2,281 pages)

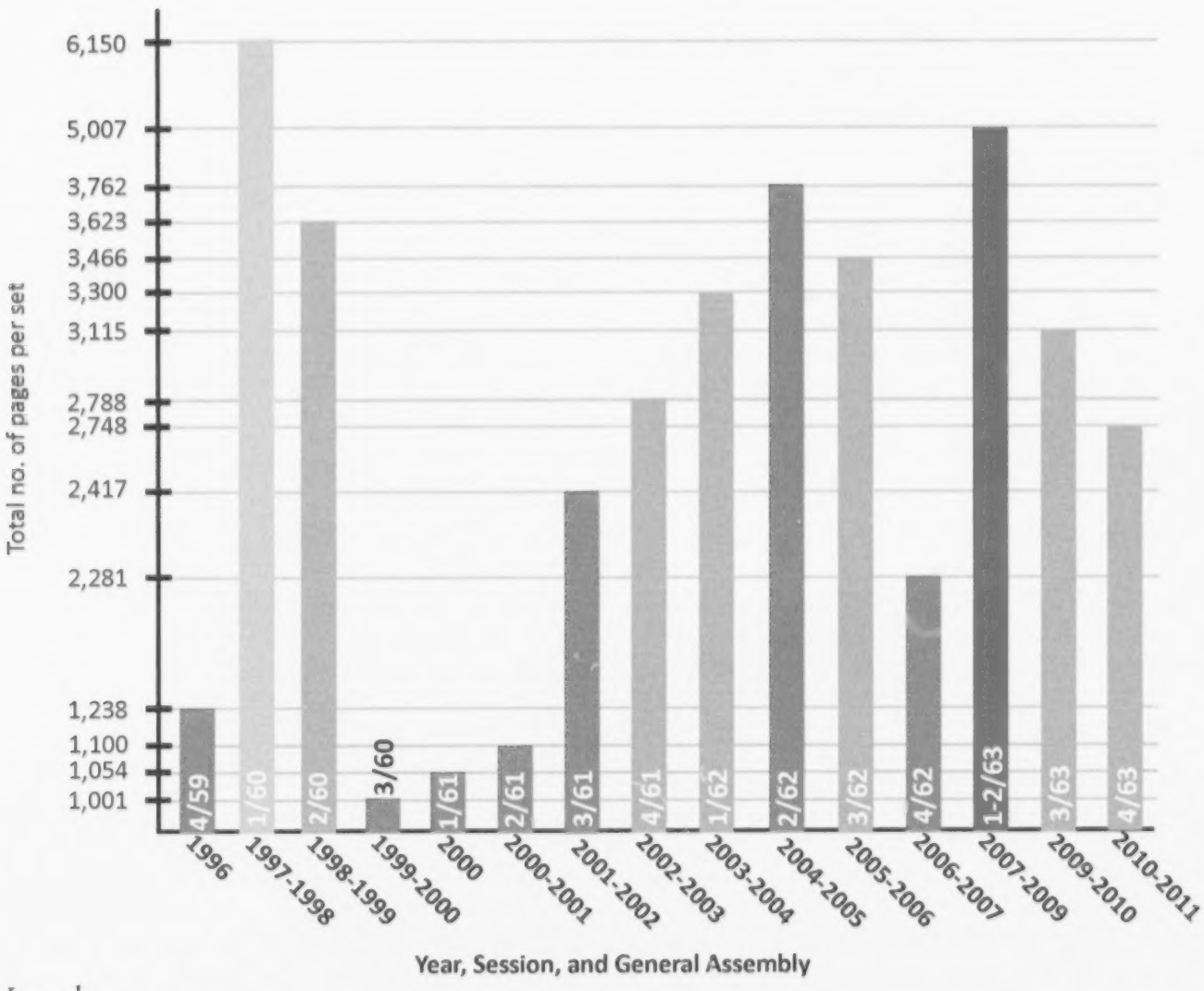
2007-2009: 1st and 2nd Sessions of the 63rd General Assembly; 6 volumes (5,007 pages)

2009-2010: 3rd Session of the 63rd General Assembly, 3 volumes (2,990 pages)

2010-2011: 4th Session of the 63rd General Assembly, 3 volumes (2,748 pages)

The following page presents the complete list of the bound editions of the daily debates as a graph.

Bound Hansard Production Statistics



Legend

- 2 Volumes/Set
- 3 Volumes/Set
- 4 Volumes/Set
- 6 Volumes/Set
- 13 Volumes/Set

Hansard Editor
Jeff Bursey

Human Resources, Finance, & Administration

This section of the Legislative Assembly reports directly to the Clerk on matters relating to Human Resources, Financial Services and Administration. The Administrative Officer position focuses mainly, but not exclusively, on pay and benefits for employees and Members; budgeting and day-to-day finances of Legislative Services, the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner and the Information and Privacy Commission. Information technology, telecommunications and general maintenance requests are also managed by this section. Information technology includes upgrades to existing hardware, replacement computers, printers, and photocopiers as well as software licensing. I am also responsible for maintaining an up-to-date equipment inventory.

An important aspect of the position involves advising employees on benefits and leave interpretation, as well as providing information to both the Government House and Opposition Leaders on staffing budgets. Members' pay and benefits, including mileage allowances are a function of this position.

The Legislative Assembly uses the Oracle Financial System, Hyperion and PeopleSoft and is a part of the overall government financial and payroll processes. The annual budget exercise commenced in January, 2011 for presentation in the spring session. Along with budget preparation, quarterly forecasting is prepared three times annually to ensure operations stay within the approved budget.

On July 4th, the Assembly hosted Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Dutchess of Cambridge. I was honored to participate in some of the planning for this event and to have a "front row seat" during the visit! Following the Royal Visit, the Legislative Assembly hosted the annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Canadian Region Conference from July 13-18. I attended a total of twelve (12) planning meetings during the year and managed the registration/information desk for the duration of the conference.

In September, the recruitment process for Legislative Pages commenced by sending a letter of invitation to all senior high schools in the province. This is a departure from previous years where only eight (8) Pages were chosen from the ten (10) senior high schools, three (3) French schools and one (1) private. The schools chose their candidate and advised the Legislature by October 14, 2011. Orientation for twelve (12) Pages was held on October 19th prior to the November 1st House opening.

The Canadian Association of Parliamentary Administration, of which I am a member, held its annual conference from September 12 -16 in Whitehorse, Yukon. As always, the business sessions and the opportunity this conference provides for networking with fellow Legislative Administrators are very beneficial. The 2012 CAPA Conference will be held in Charlottetown, which makes me a member of the Executive Committee for a three-year term, starting in 2011. The Committee had four (4) conference calls in 2011 to organize a working agenda and to assist with conference planning in general.

The Provincial General Election was held on October 3rd, resulting in five (5) new Members. I participated in the orientation for these Members, as well as administered pay and benefit matters for them and Members not

returned. Also, I administered the payroll for Returning Officers, Deputy Returning Officers and Election Clerks.

The Legislature participated in the Post-Secondary Student Program, hiring two Legislative Interpreters for 14-week periods from May 9th to August 12th and May 31st to September 3rd. Selection interviews, payroll documentation and timekeeping are administered through this office, as well as pay and timekeeping for the Government Members' Office, and the Opposition Office, who hired one (1) and two (2) students respectively.

The Legislative Assembly Employee Development and Training Fund Selection Committee, of which I am a member, met three (3) times during the year, approving a total of $1,797 in staff training and development dollars.

As in past years, I coordinated the annual United Way and Canadian Cancer Society daffodil campaigns for the Legislative Assembly. The canvas includes all Members and staff, as well as staff of Elections PEI and the Information and Privacy Commission. Again, I wish to thank Members and staff for their continuing support of these very worthwhile fundraisers.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Clerk, Clerk Assistant and all my co-workers for the cooperation and support they provided during the year.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Cheryl Stead

Legislative Library & Research Service

Research Librarian

2011 marked the 160th anniversary of the granting of responsible government on Prince Edward Island, and the Assembly celebrated with a number of special events. Early in the year there was an Open House for members of the Civil Service, followed by several lectures hosted by the Speaker, and two book launches. The Assembly also hosted an art exhibit in the Chamber and invited past legislative pages back to Province House for a reunion. The Research Librarian was busy providing in-house design and production support to the campaign, with the Research Officer producing backgrounders and information leaflets for staff and visitors.

In addition to the Royal Tour, the Legislative Assembly hosted the 49th Canadian Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in July, from the 13th to the 19th. Planning for the conference began in 2010, but kicked into high gear in January of this year. The Research Librarian has been designing and printing conference materials.

The Legislative Assembly also hosted the 49th Canada Region Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) in Charlottetown in July. All conference materials were designed and produced in-house by the Research Librarian under the direction of the Office of the Clerk and with the assistance of House staff.

An ongoing project of the Legislative Library, in partnership with Hansard, the Government Services Library, the University of Prince Edward Island, The Queen's Printer, and the Public Archives and Records Office, has been the digitization of older editions of the Clerk's Journal, which is the official record of the Legislative Assembly. Journals have been scanned back to the early 1900s and the information loaded into a beta version of the interface. The hope is to launch the digital archive during the spring 2012 sitting of the House with the records of the modern Legislative Assembly, from 1893-present, available for searching.

Some upcoming projects for library staff include: retooling the Assembly website, expanding the legislature's interpretive program, creating a visitors' map for the interior and grounds of Province House, and continuing to support the work of the Standing Committees, MLAs, and house staff.

Research Officer

In 2011, the Research Officer completed over 40 research briefs at the request of individual MLAs, standing committees, caucus staff, and staff of the legislature. The Research Officer also responded to over 40 information requests from other Canadian jurisdictions through the Association of Parliamentary Libraries in Canada (APLIC) listserv. In turn, the listserv was used to obtain information on legislation, regulations and policies of other jurisdictions for comparison to PEI.

As in previous years, research requests were on a variety of subjects, ranging from retrieval of statistics to more in-depth briefs on legislation and social issues. Subjects were as diverse as Registered Disability Savings Plans, rules surrounding parliamentary Public Accounts committees, and PEI culture in the 1940s and 50s. The Research Officer also continued to provide the usual in-meeting research and report assistance service to all active committees.

2011 was the 160th Anniversary of Responsible Government on Prince Edward Island, and the Research Officer assisted with the various events that were part of the celebration. The Research Officer also developed interpretive content on the 1851 attainment of responsible government and the people involved, for distribution to visitors to Province House.

Summertime legislative interpreters were once again hired by the Assembly in 2011, and again the Research Officer was responsible for their training and interpretive content. The interpreters also highlighted the 160th Anniversary of Responsible Government in their interactions with visitors.

In September 2011 the Research Officer attended the annual conference of the Parliamentary Visitor Services Association in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and gave a presentation on the developments in visitor services and interpretation that have taken place at Province House in the past few years.

Two major events---the Royal Visit and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Canadian Regional Conference---were hosted by the Legislative Assembly in July 2011. All the staff of the Assembly contributed to the planning and successful delivery of these events, and the Research Officer assisted in particular with transportation logistics and coordination with other organizations involved.

RESEARCH LIBRARIAN
Laura Morrell

RESEARCH OFFICER
Ryan Reddin

SECURITY

Role

The Sergeant-at-Arms is part of the Office of the Legislative Assembly as defined in the *Legislative Assembly Act*, RSPEI 1988 Cap L-7. The position is steeped in parliamentary tradition; with the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Mace, the House may exercise its considerable rights and privileges, and carry out the various parliamentary functions assigned to it.

Today, the Sergeant-at-Arms is also responsible for the operational security of the Legislative Assembly. The objective is to provide a safe and secure environment for MLAs and Assembly staff to conduct their parliamentary responsibilities in Province House and the Coles Building. As of September 2010, security services for the Legislative Assembly are supplied by the Legislative Assembly Security Force, which consists of three full-time and six part-time members, under the direction of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Additional responsibilites include monitoring and maintenance of electronic surveillance equipment, issuing and controlling of card access system for the Coles Building, training of security personnel, liasing with the Charlottetown Police (as required), creation of contingency plans for bomb threats, fire evacuation plans, contact for assistance with public demonstrations, and other duties.

Activities

The spring of 2011 brought with it additional training for the Legislative Assembly Security Force. In February, members of the security team participated in a Parliamentary Security Course co-ordinated by Prince Edward Island's Director of Security, Al McDonald, with the assistance of the Sergeant-At-Arms and Director of Security of the Ontario Legislature. The following topics were covered during the training:

- Parliamentary Privilege and Warrants
- Charter vs. Privilege
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Criminal Code of Canada
- Officer Safety
- Major Event Planning
- Crowd Management

Sergeant-at-Arms and
Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod,
Warrant Officer
J.A. (Al) McDonald, C.D.

Other training courses taken by the Security Force in 2011 included:

- Baton Training
- Managing the Bomb Threat

The Security Force was also involved in the swearing in of the new Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, Honourable H. Frank Lewis.

In July, the Security Force joined with the RCMP to provide security for the Royal Visit of Prince William and Catherine, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

During the past year, I had the privilege of attending the 27th Annual Sergeant-at-Arms Conference in Quebec City from the 1st to the 5th of August 2011, hosted by Pierre Duchaine, Sergeant-at-Arms of the Assemblée nationale du Québec.

In attendance were all the Sergeants-at-Arms of the Canadian provinces, as well as the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons, London, England; the Usher of the Black Rod of the

Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Maurice Fitzpatrick

House of Lords, London, England; the Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms of the Parliament of South Africa; and, the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms of Australia.

Topics covered during the conference include:

- Provincial police force and the national assembly
- Intelligence as a determining factor in deployment measures
- Crowd control and restoration of Quebec
- Security audit
- Heritage building maintenance planning
- Connecting with citizens
- Sustainable development plan for the National Assembly of Quebec
- International relations and le francophone
- Management of protest and demonstrations
- Impact of the Olympics on parliament
- Security demystified
- General Meeting - Sergeants-at-Arms

A great deal was learned from the conference and workshop discussions, enabling the Sergeant-at-Arms to return and implement changes to security, allowing for a safer and more secure work place.

The Sergeant-at-Arms Conference is held each year in a different location. In 2012, the conference will be held in Toronto, Ontario. I am looking forward to future meetings and discussions on how we can make the Prince Edward Island legislature a safer place to work.

SECURITY OFFICER, PROVINCE HOUSE
Tony Halvorson

SECURITY OFFICERS, HON. GEORGE COLES BUILDING
L TO R: Chuck Bachmanek, Trevor Darrach, Dave Ready

SECURITY OFFICERS, PROVINCE HOUSE
L TO R: Fred Fordham, Ted Marsh, Maurice Fitzpatrick, Don LeBlanc, Paul Gormley, Brian Weldon

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
J.A. (Al) McDonald, C.D.

Sessional Administration

The Sessional Administrative Office supports the records retention aspect required of the Clerk in his duty to maintain accurate records of the House. The Sessional Administrative Office receives and archives a copy of everything tabled in the House during a session, as well as copies of documents tabled intersessionally. While the House is in session, office staff attend sittings and cue House proceedings for the transcribers in the Hansard office.

During sessions, staff produces daily publications such as copies of bills and legislation, the Journal, Orders of the Day, Motions, and Questions and Answers, providing copies of same to the Clerks, Members, and the media.

As part of its role as clearinghouse for Assembly documents, staff also undertakes daily mailings to Opposition Office, Government Members Office, Island New Democrats, Hansard, PEI Law Society, Government Services Library, Legislative Library, Robertson Library at UPEI, and Library of Parliament, Ottawa. In addition to sending out hard copies of documents, staff also maintains the Legislative Assembly website with daily postings of the Journal, Orders of the Day, Motions, Legislation, Questions, Answers, Documents Tabled, Oral Question Period, and Hansard.

The office is also responsible for managing the pages who serve in the House during a session, providing training, support, and scheduling.

When the House is not in session, staff works with the Standing Committees in recording, cueing in speakers, and providing transcripts of meetings.

Administrative Officers
Gail Jenkins
Myra LeClair

Indemnities & Allowances Commission

The Indemnities and Allowances Commission is appointed by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (pursuant to Section 46 of the Legislative Assembly Act, R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. L-7) and is charged with the responsibility of making binding decisions on remuneration and allowances to be paid to Members of the Legislative Assembly, Premier, Speaker, Ministers of the Crown, various House and Executive Council Committee positions.

Members of the Commission are appointed for the duration of the General Assembly in which they are appointed or for not more than five years.

The Commission conducts an annual review of remuneration and allowances and submits, on or before December 1 each year, a report determining the remuneration and allowances to be paid to the persons referred to in subsection 46(1) of the Legislative Assembly Act.

Members of the Commission as appointed by Hon. Carolyn Bertram, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, for the 64th General Assembly are:

- Ms. Barbara Stevenson, Q.C., Chair
- Mr. Stan MacPherson, Commissioner,
- Mr. Blake Doyle, Commissioner

The Commission's 2011 report was tabled intersessionally by the Honourable Speaker on March 15, 2012.

Prince Edward Island Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Aims, Goals and Activities of the Association

The CPA is an Association of Commonwealth Parliamentarians who, irrespective of gender, race, religion or culture, are united by community of interest, respect for the rule of law and individual rights and freedoms, and by pursuit of the positive ideals of parliamentary democracy.

Its purpose is to promote knowledge and understanding of the constitutional, legislative, economic, social and cultural systems within a parliamentary democratic framework. It undertakes this mission with particular reference to the countries of the Commonwealth of Nations and to countries having close historical and parliamentary associations with it.

CPA provides the sole means of regular consultation among Members of Commonwealth Parliaments. It fosters cooperation and understanding among them and promotes the study of, and respect for, Parliament.

The CPA pursues these objectives by means of

- Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences, Regional Conferences and other symposiums;
- Interparliamentary visits;
- Parliamentary Seminars and Workshops;
- Publications, notably The Parliamentarian, Canadian Parliamentary Review and two newsletters on CPA activities and on parliamentary and political events;
- Parliamentary Information and Reference Centre communications.

Prince Edward Island Branch, CPA

The PEI Branch of CPA is comprised of all Members of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island. The Hon. Carolyn Bertram, as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, serves as Branch President and Vice-Presidents are Hon. Robert Ghiz, Premier and Hon. Olive Crane, Leader of the Opposition.

Activities During 2011

The year 2011 was not only the 160th anniversary of the establishment of responsible government in this province, it was also the 100th anniversary of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Fittingly, the Forty-ninth Canadian Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association was hosted by the Prince Edward Island Branch, taking place in Charlottetown from July 13-19, 2011. The Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians met on July 13-14. Following welcoming remarks offered by Speaker Kathleen Casey, the group turned its attention to such topical issues as engaging women, transforming cities: designing an ideal city for women and girls; and controlling your message using today's tools of the trade. A highlight of the day was a presentation by PEI's "famous five": Hon. Catherine Callbeck, former Premier; Ms. Pat Mella, former Leader of the Opposition; Hon. Nancy Guptill, former Speaker of the House; Hon. Marion Reid, former Lieutenant Governor; and Hon. Elizabeth Hubley, former Deputy Speaker. The welcome reception for all delegates and partners took place on July 14, and was attended by nearly 200 people. Business sessions continued on July 15 with Preston Manning, C.C. President and CEO of the Manning Centre for Building

Democracy, speaking about a model parliament for Canada, national institution for training future parliamentarians and a laboratory for testing parliamentary reforms. He was followed by sessions devoted to an overview of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the 2011 Manitoba flood experience; the role of the whip in the Westminster parliamentary system, among others. The Hon. Peter Milliken, former Speaker of the House of Commons, offered his reflections on presiding over a minority parliament and his term as the longest-serving federal Speaker in Canadian history. Opportunities for renewing acquaintances and meeting colleagues were provided to delegates and partners as they enjoyed touring various parts of the province. Delegate partners and children were entertained with an interesting and varied program of activities. Prince Edward Islanders are noted for their hospitality, and guests and delegates alike experienced true Island hospitality extended by Members and staff of the Legislative Assembly. The conference was a great success due to their efforts.

Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie

The Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie brings together parliamentarians from 77 parliaments or inter-parliamentary organizations from five continents. Its actions strive principally to promote and defend democracy, the right to development, the respect of human rights, the international development of the French language and cultural diversity. The APF was created in 1967 and is the consultative body to the head of States of the Sommet de la Francophonie. Prince Edward Island is one of 13 members of the Americas Regional Assembly and the provincial division of the organization and in 2011, was under the direction of Ms. Cynthia Dunsford, MLA.